

September 1, 2009

OBEY IN MEDFORD TO VIEW ALLMAN STREET UPGRADE

MEDFORD, WI – Seventh District Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI) was in Medford today to take a look at the Allman Street road and bridge project that was completed with federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding of almost \$700,000. The project consisted of replacing the existing single span bridge over the Black River with a new two span bridge and the necessary approach road work. The funding was provided through legislation produced by the Appropriations Committee which Obey chairs.

“Communities can’t grow and they can’t provide decent job opportunities without strong community infrastructure such as good roads and bridges,” said Congressman Obey. “The purpose of the Recovery Act funding is to meet community needs, ease the squeeze on local taxpayers and help stabilize the economy by stimulating construction jobs.”

The Allman Street Bridge was one of 36 bridges that were submitted to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation in late 2008 for improvement. Unfortunately, the state did not have sufficient funds to proceed with all the local efforts; which could have delayed the Allman Street Bridge improvements for two years. The federal ARRA funds ensured that the state could proceed in a timely manner. Construction started on June 1, 2009 and was completed this past week.

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